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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 011495-056

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

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## **REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 02 April 2002, Applicants submit the following remarks.

Claims 20-27 are pending, and claims 24-26 are withdrawn from consideration.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that the proposed drawing changes filed on 02 January 2002 have been approved. Formal drawings implementing the approved changes are filed herewith.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-23 and 27 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting. Applicants respectfully submit that the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith obviates this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration on the merits and prompt allowance are respectfully requested. In

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the event any questions arise regarding this communication or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date:

19 June 2002